

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) Lubricants for drilling fluid systems ~~comprising~~consisting essentially of a dispersion in a carrier fluid of~~comprising~~ at least one fatty acid soap comprising at least one alkali metal having a valence of 1, ~~said fatty acid soap being dispersed in a carrier fluid.~~

2. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 1 wherein said alkali metal is selected from the group consisting of lithium, sodium, potassium, rubidium, cesium, and combinations thereof.

3. (Currently amended) The lubricants of claim 1 wherein said alkali metal ~~are~~is selected from the group consisting of lithium, sodium, potassium, and combinations thereof.

4. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 1 wherein said fatty acid soap comprises monocarboxylic acid selected from the group consisting of saturated monocarboxylic acids and unsaturated monocarboxylic acids having the following general structure:



wherein R is selected from the group consisting of alkyl groups and alkenyl groups having from about 10 to about 28 carbon atoms, said alkenyl groups comprising from about 0 to about 4 unsaturated carbon-carbon bonds.

5. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 2 wherein said fatty acid soap comprises monocarboxylic acid selected from the group consisting of saturated monocarboxylic acids and unsaturated monocarboxylic acids having the following general structure:



wherein R is selected from the group consisting of alkyl groups and alkenyl groups having from about 10 to about 28 carbon atoms, said alkenyl groups comprising from about 0 to about 4 unsaturated carbon-carbon bonds.

6. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 3 wherein said fatty acid soap comprises monocarboxylic acid selected from the group consisting of saturated monocarboxylic acids and unsaturated monocarboxylic acids having the following general structure:



wherein R is selected from the group consisting of alkyl groups and alkenyl groups having from about 10 to about 28 carbon atoms, said alkenyl groups comprising from about 0 to about 4 unsaturated carbon-carbon bonds.

7. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 1 wherein said fatty acid soap comprises monocarboxylic acid selected from the group consisting of saturated monocarboxylic acid and unsaturated monocarboxylic acid having the following general structure:



wherein R is selected from the group consisting of alkyl groups and alkenyl groups having from about 16 to about 24 carbon atoms, and said alkyl groups comprise from about 0 to about 2 unsaturated carbon-carbon bonds.

8. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 2 wherein said fatty acid soap comprises monocarboxylic acid selected from the group consisting of saturated monocarboxylic acid and unsaturated monocarboxylic acid having the following general structure:



wherein R is selected from the group consisting of alkyl groups and alkenyl groups having from about 16 to about 24 carbon atoms, and said alkyl groups comprise from about 0 to about 2 unsaturated carbon-carbon bonds.

9. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 3 wherein said fatty acid soap comprises monocarboxylic acid selected from the group consisting of saturated monocarboxylic acid and unsaturated monocarboxylic acid having the following general structure:



wherein R is selected from the group consisting of alkyl groups and alkenyl groups having from about 16 to about 24 carbon atoms, and said alkyl groups comprise from about 0 to about 2 unsaturated carbon-carbon bonds.

10. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 1 wherein said fatty acid is derived from a material selected from the group consisting of animal fats and vegetable fats.

11. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 2 wherein said fatty acid is derived from a material selected from the group consisting of animal fats and vegetable fats.

12. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 3 wherein said fatty acid is derived from a material selected from the group consisting of animal fats and vegetable fats.

13. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 1 wherein said fatty acid soap comprises a fatty acid selected from the group consisting of tall oil fatty acids, stearic acids, palmitic acids, myristic acids, oleic acids, and fatty acids derived from castor oil, coconut oil, cotton-seed oil, rice oil, soybean oil, lard oil, rosin acids, tall oils, and combinations thereof.

14. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 2 wherein said fatty acid soap comprises a fatty acid selected from the group consisting of tall oil fatty acids, stearic acids, myristic acids, palmitic acids, oleic acids, and fatty acids derived from castor oil, coconut oil, cotton-seed oil, rice oil, soybean oil, lard oil, rosin acids, tall oils, and combinations thereof.

15. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 3 wherein said fatty acid soap comprises a fatty acid selected from the group consisting of tall oil fatty acids, stearic acids, palmitic acids, myristic acids, oleic acids, and fatty acids derived from castor oil, coconut oil, cotton-seed oil, rice oil, soybean oil, lard oil, rosin acids, tall oils, and combinations thereof.

16. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 1 wherein said fatty acid of said fatty acid soap is selected from the group consisting of stearic acid, palmitic acid, and myristic acids.

17. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 2 wherein said fatty acid of said fatty acid soap is selected from the group consisting of stearic acid, palmitic acid, and myristic acids.

18. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 3 wherein said fatty acid of said fatty acid soap is selected from the group consisting of stearic acid, palmitic acid, and myristic acids.

19. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 1 wherein said carrier comprises one or more glycols.

20. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 18 wherein said carrier comprises one or more glycols.

21. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 1 wherein said carrier comprises one or more water soluble glycol ether.

22. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 2 wherein said carrier comprises one or more water soluble glycol ether.

23. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 3 wherein said carrier comprises one or more water soluble glycol ether.

24. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 18 wherein said carrier comprises one or more water soluble glycol ether.

25. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 21 wherein said water soluble glycol ether is selected from the group consisting of propylene glycol ethers, polyethylene glycol ethers and polypropylene glycol ethers having a number average molecular weight of about 2000 or less, and combinations thereof.

26. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 25 wherein said number average molecular weight is about 1000 or less.

27. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 22 wherein said water soluble glycol ether is selected from the group consisting of propylene glycol ethers, polyethylene glycol ethers and polypropylene glycol ethers having a number average molecular weight of about 2000 or less, and combinations thereof.

28. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 27 wherein said number average molecular weight is about 1000 or less.

29. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 23 wherein said water soluble glycol ether is selected from the group consisting of propylene glycol ethers, polyethylene glycol ethers and polypropylene glycol ethers having a number average molecular weight of about 2000 or less, and combinations thereof.

30. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 29 wherein said number average molecular weight is about 1000 or less.

31. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 24 wherein said water soluble glycol ether is selected from the group consisting of propylene glycol ethers, polyethylene glycol ethers and polypropylene glycol ethers having a number average molecular weight of about 2000 or less, and combinations thereof.

32. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 31 wherein said number average molecular weight is about 1000 or less.

33. (Currently amended) Lubricants for drilling fluid systems consisting essentially of comprising a dispersion in a carrier fluid of comprising at least one fatty acid soap comprising lithium, ~~said fatty acid soap being dispersed in a carrier fluid.~~

34. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 33 wherein said fatty acid soap comprises monocarboxylic acid selected from the group consisting of saturated monocarboxylic acids and unsaturated monocarboxylic acids having the following general structure:



wherein R is selected from the group consisting of alkyl groups and alkenyl groups having from about 10 to about 28 carbon atoms, said alkenyl groups comprising from about 0 to about 4 unsaturated carbon-carbon bonds.

35. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 33 wherein said fatty acid soap comprises monocarboxylic acid selected from the group consisting of saturated monocarboxylic acid and unsaturated monocarboxylic acid having the following general structure:



wherein R is selected from the group consisting of alkyl groups and alkenyl groups having from about 16 to about 24 carbon atoms, and said alkyl groups comprise from about 0 to about 2 unsaturated carbon-carbon bonds.

36. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 33 wherein said fatty acid soap comprises fatty acid derived from a material selected from the group consisting of animal fats and vegetable fats.

37. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 33 wherein said fatty acid soap comprises a fatty acid selected from the group consisting of tall oil fatty acids, stearic acids, palmitic acids, oleic acids, and fatty acids derived from castor oil, coconut oil, cotton-seed oil, rice oil, soybean oil, lard oil, rosin acids, tall oils, and combinations thereof.

38. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 33 wherein said fatty acid of said fatty acid soap is selected from the group consisting of stearic acid, palmitic acid, and myristic acid.

39. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 33 wherein said carrier comprises one or more glycols.

40. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 38 wherein said carrier comprises one or more glycols.

41. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 33 wherein said carrier comprises one or more water soluble glycol ether.

42. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 41 wherein said water soluble glycol ether is selected from the group consisting of propylene glycol ethers, polyethylene glycol ethers and polypropylene glycol ethers having a number average molecular weight of about 2000 or less, and combinations thereof.

43. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 42 wherein said number average molecular weight is about 1000 or less.

44. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 38 wherein said carrier comprises one or more water soluble glycol ether.

45. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 44 wherein said water soluble glycol ether is selected from the group consisting of propylene glycol ethers, polyethylene glycol ethers and polypropylene glycol ethers having a number average molecular weight of about 2000 or less, and combinations thereof.

46. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 45 wherein said number average molecular weight is about 1000 or less.

47. (Currently amended) Lubricants for drilling fluid systems ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of a dispersion in a carrier fluid of stearate comprising at least one alkali metal having a valence of 1 ~~and stearate dispersed in a carrier fluid.~~

48. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 47 wherein said alkali metal is selected from the group consisting of lithium, sodium, potassium, rubidium, cesium, and combinations thereof.

49. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 47 wherein said alkali metal are selected from the group consisting of lithium, sodium, potassium, and combinations thereof.

50. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 47 wherein said carrier comprises one or more glycols.

51. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 49 wherein said carrier comprises one or more glycols.

52. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 47 wherein said carrier comprises one or more water soluble glycol ether.

53. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 52 wherein said water soluble glycol ether is selected from the group consisting of propylene glycol ethers, polyethylene glycol ethers and polypropylene glycol ethers having a number average molecular weight of about 2000 or less, and combinations thereof.

54. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 53 wherein said number average molecular weight is about 1000 or less.

55. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 49 wherein said carrier comprises one or more water soluble glycol ether.

56. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 55 wherein said water soluble glycol ether is selected from the group consisting of propylene glycol ethers, polyethylene glycol ethers and polypropylene glycol ethers having a number average molecular weight of about 2000 or less, and combinations thereof.

57. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 56 wherein said number average molecular weight is about 1000 or less.

58. (Currently amended) Lubricants for drilling fluid systems consisting essentially of comprising a dispersion comprising of lithium stearate dispersed in a carrier fluid.

59. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 58 wherein said carrier comprises one or more glycols.

60. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 58 wherein said carrier comprises one or more water soluble glycol ether.

61. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 60 wherein said water soluble glycol ether is selected from the group consisting of propylene glycol ethers, polyethylene glycol

ethers and polypropylene glycol ethers having a number average molecular weight of about 2000 or less, and combinations thereof.

62. (Previously presented) The lubricants of claim 61 wherein said number average molecular weight is about 1000 or less.

63. (Currently amended) A drilling fluid system comprising a continuous phase comprising a dispersion comprising a quantity of at least one fatty acid soap comprising at least one alkali metal selected from the group consisting of lithium, potassium, rubidium, cesium, and combinations thereof having a valence of 1, said fatty acid soap being dispersed in a continuous phase of said drilling fluid system in a quantity being effective to form a coherent lubricating film on metal surfaces of drilling equipment exposed to said dispersion.

64. (Canceled).

65. (Currently amended) The drilling fluid system of claim 63 wherein said alkali metal are selected from the group consisting of lithium, ~~sodium~~, potassium, and combinations thereof.

66. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 63 wherein said fatty acid soap comprises monocarboxylic acid selected from the group consisting of saturated monocarboxylic acids and unsaturated monocarboxylic acids having the following general structure:



wherein R is selected from the group consisting of alkyl groups and alkenyl groups having from about 10 to about 28 carbon atoms, said alkenyl groups comprising from about 0 to about 4 unsaturated carbon-carbon bonds.

67. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 63 wherein said fatty acid soap comprises monocarboxylic acid selected from the group consisting of saturated monocarboxylic acid and unsaturated monocarboxylic acid having the following general structure:



wherein R is selected from the group consisting of alkyl groups and alkenyl groups having from about 16 to about 24 carbon atoms, and said alkyl groups comprise from about 0 to about 2 unsaturated carbon-carbon bonds.

68. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 63 wherein said fatty acid soap comprises fatty acid derived from a material selected from the group consisting of animal fats and vegetable fats.

69. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 63 wherein said fatty acid soap comprises a fatty acid selected from the group consisting of tall oil fatty acids, stearic acids, palmitic acids, oleic acids, and fatty acids derived from castor oil, coconut oil, cotton-seed oil, rice oil, soybean oil, lard oil, rosin acids, tall oils, and combinations thereof.

70. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 63 wherein said fatty acid soap comprises a fatty acid selected from the group consisting of stearic acid, palmitic acid, and myristic acid.

71. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 63 wherein said quantity is from about 0.01 to about 10 vol.% of said drilling fluid system.

72. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 63 wherein said quantity is from about 2 to about 5 vol.%.

73. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 70 wherein said quantity is from about 0.01 to about 10 vol.% of said drilling fluid system.

74. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 70 wherein said quantity is from about 2 to about 5 vol.%.

75. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 63 comprising one or more monomers comprising acrylamide.

76. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 75 where said one or more monomers comprising acrylamide comprise a combination of acrylamide alkyl alkane sulfonate(s) and dialkyl acrylamides, and combinations thereof.

77. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 75 wherein said one or more monomers comprising acrylamide comprise a combination of acrylamide methyl propane sulfonate (AMPS), dimethyl acrylamide (DMA), and combination thereof.

78. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 75 comprising a combination of acrylamide methyl propane sulfonate (AMPS) and dimethyl acryamide (DMA).

79. (Currently amended) A drilling fluid system comprising a continuous phase comprising a dispersion comprising a quantity of at least one fatty acid soap comprising lithium, said fatty acid soap being dispersed in a continuous phase of said fluid system in a quantity being effective to form a coherent lubricating film on metal surfaces of drilling equipment exposed to said dispersion.

80. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 79 wherein said fatty acid soap comprises monocarboxylic acid selected from the group consisting of saturated monocarboxylic acids and unsaturated monocarboxylic acids having the following general structure:



wherein R is selected from the group consisting of alkyl groups and alkenyl groups having from about 10 to about 28 carbon atoms, said alkenyl groups comprising from about 0 to about 4 unsaturated carbon-carbon bonds.

81. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 79 wherein said fatty acid soap comprises monocarboxylic acid selected from the group consisting of saturated monocarboxylic acid and unsaturated monocarboxylic acid having the following general structure:



wherein R is selected from the group consisting of alkyl groups and alkenyl groups having from about 16 to about 24 carbon atoms, and said alkyl groups comprise from about 0 to about 2 unsaturated carbon-carbon bonds.

82. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 79 wherein said fatty acid soap comprises fatty acid derived from a material selected from the group consisting of animal fats and vegetable fats.

83. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 79 wherein said fatty acid soap comprises a fatty acid selected from the group consisting of tall oil fatty acids, stearic

acids, palmitic acids, oleic acids, and fatty acids derived from castor oil, coconut oil, cotton-seed oil, rice oil, soybean oil, lard oil, rosin acids, tall oils, and combinations thereof.

84. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 79 wherein said fatty acid soap comprises a fatty acid selected from the group consisting of stearic acid, palmitic acid, and myristic acid.

85. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 79 wherein said quantity is from about 0.01 to about 10 vol.% of said drilling fluid system.

86. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 79 wherein said quantity is from about 2 to about 5 vol.%.

87. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 84 wherein said quantity is from about 0.01 to about 10 vol.% of said drilling fluid system.

88. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 84 wherein said quantity is from about 2 to about 5 vol.%.

89. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 79 comprising one or more monomers comprising acrylamide.

90. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 89 where said one or more monomers comprising acrylamide comprise a combination of acrylamide alkyl alkane sulfonate(s) and dialkyl acrylamides, and combinations thereof.

91. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 89 wherein said one or more monomers comprising acrylamide comprise a combination of acrylamide methyl propane sulfonate (AMPS), dimethyl acrylamide (DMA), and combinations thereof.

92. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 89 comprising a combination of acrylamide methyl propane sulfonate (AMPS) and dimethyl acrylamide (DMA).

93. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 84 comprising one or more monomers comprising acrylamide.

94. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 93 where said one or more monomers comprising acrylamide comprise a combination of acrylamide alkyl alkane sulfonate(s) and dialkyl acrylamides, and combinations thereof.

95. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 93 wherein said one or more monomers comprising acrylamide comprise a combination of acrylamide methyl propane sulfonate (AMPS), dimethyl acryamide (DMA), and combinations thereof.

96. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 93 comprising a combination of acrylamide methyl propane sulfonate (AMPS) and dimethyl acryamide (DMA).

97. (Currently amended) A drilling fluid system comprising a dispersion comprising a quantity of at least one fatty acid soap comprising stearate and at least one alkali metal having a valence of 1, said fatty acid soap being dispersed in a continuous phase of said drilling fluid system in a quantity being effective to form a coherent lubricating film on metal surfaces of drilling equipment exposed to said dispersion.

98. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 97 wherein said alkali metal is selected from the group consisting of lithium, sodium, potassium, rubidium, cesium, and combinations thereof.

99. (Currently amended) The drilling fluid system of claim 97 wherein said alkali metal are selected from the group consisting of lithium, ~~sodium~~, potassium, and combinations thereof.

100. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 97 wherein said quantity is from about 0.01 to about 10 vol.% of said drilling fluid system.

101. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 97 wherein said quantity is from about 2 to about 5 vol.%.

102. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 99 wherein said quantity is from about 0.01 to about 10 vol.% of said drilling fluid system.

103. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 99 wherein said quantity is from about 2 to about 5 vol.%.

104. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 97 comprising one or more monomers comprising acrylamide.

105. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 104 comprising one or more monomers comprising acrylamide comprise a combination of acrylamide alkyl alkane sulfonate(s) and dialkyl acrylamides, and combinations thereof.

106. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 104 comprising said one or more monomers comprising acrylamide comprise a combination of acrylamide methyl propane sulfonate (AMPS), dimethyl acryamide (DMA), and combinations thereof.

107. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 104 comprising a combination of acrylamide methyl propane sulfonate (AMPS) and dimethyl acryamide (DMA).

108. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 104 comprising one or more monomers comprising acrylamide comprise a combination of acrylamide alkyl alkane sulfonate(s) and dialkyl acrylamides, and combinations thereof.

109. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 104 wherein said one or more monomers comprising acrylamide comprise a combination of acrylamide methyl propane sulfonate (AMPS), dimethyl acryamide (DMA), and combinations thereof.

110. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 104 comprising a combination of acrylamide methyl propane sulfonate (AMPS) and dimethyl acryamide (DMA).

111. (Currently amended) A drilling fluid system comprising a dispersion comprising a quantity of lithium stearate dispersed in a continuous phase of said drilling fluid system in a quantity effective to form a coherent lubricating film on metal surfaces of drilling equipment exposed to said dispersion.

112. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 111 wherein said quantity is from about 0.01 to about 10 vol.% of said drilling fluid system.

113. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 111 wherein said quantity is from about 2 to about 5 vol.%.

114. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 111 comprising one or more monomers comprising acrylamide.

115. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 114 comprising one or more monomers comprising acrylamide comprise a combination of acrylamide alkyl alkane sulfonate(s) and dialkyl acrylamides, and combinations thereof.

116. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 114 comprising said one or more monomers comprising acrylamide comprise a combination of acrylamide methyl propane sulfonate (AMPS), dimethyl acryamide (DMA), and combinations thereof.

117. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 114 comprising a combination of acrylamide methyl propane sulfonate (AMPS) and dimethyl acryamide (DMA).

118. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 114 comprising one or more monomers comprising acrylamide comprise a combination of acrylamide alkyl alkane sulfonate(s) and dialkyl acrylamides, and combinations thereof.

119. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 114 wherein said one or more monomers comprising acrylamide comprise a combination of acrylamide methyl propane sulfonate (AMPS), dimethyl acryamide (DMA), and combinations thereof.

120. (Previously presented) The drilling fluid system of claim 114 comprising a combination of acrylamide methyl propane sulfonate (AMPS) and dimethyl acryamide (DMA).

121. (Currently amended) A method for prolonging life of drilling equipment comprising exposing at least one metal surface of said drilling equipment to a fluid comprising a dispersion comprising a quantity of at least one fatty acid soap comprising at least one alkali metal, said fatty acid soap being dispersed in a continuous phase of said fluid system, said quantity being effective to produce a coherent lubricating film on said metal surface.

122. (Previously presented) The method of claim 121 wherein said fatty acid soap is lithium stearate.

123. (New) The method of claim 121 wherein said fluid comprises a drilling fluid system having rheology and fluid loss control properties effective for use during drilling operations, the fluid comprising a continuous phase comprising said dispersion, said dispersion comprising a quantity of at least one fatty acid soap comprising at least one alkali metal selected from the group consisting of lithium, potassium, rubidium, cesium, and combinations thereof.

124. (New) The method of claim 122 wherein said fluid comprises a drilling fluid system having rheology and fluid loss control properties effective for use during drilling operations, the fluid comprising a continuous phase comprising said dispersion.

125. (New) The drilling fluid system of claim 97 wherein said drilling fluid system comprises a continuous phase comprising said dispersion.

126. (New) The drilling fluid system of claim 111 wherein said drilling fluid system comprises a continuous phase comprising said dispersion.

**This Page is Inserted by IFW Indexing and Scanning
Operations and is not part of the Official Record**

BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images include but are not limited to the items checked:

- ☐ **BLACK BORDERS**
- ☐ **IMAGE CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES**
- ☐ **FADED TEXT OR DRAWING**
- ☐ **BLURRED OR ILLEGIBLE TEXT OR DRAWING**
- ☐ **SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES**
- ☐ **COLOR OR BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS**
- ☐ **GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS**
- ☐ **LINES OR MARKS ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT**
- ☐ **REFERENCE(S) OR EXHIBIT(S) SUBMITTED ARE POOR QUALITY**
- ☐ **OTHER:** _____

IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.

As rescanning these documents will not correct the image problems checked, please do not report these problems to the IFW Image Problem Mailbox.